

Sequachee Valley News.

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SLIGHTLY DISCURSIVE.

"Pop valves" are very necessary articles, and both the Statesman Democrat and the Hustler appear to have served in this capacity for parties whose ambitions and aspirations would be defeated by a refusal of the county to submit to a law, which, if operative, would cause trouble. Capable and thinking men of both parties agree that the re-districting of the county was done solely for political purposes, and not for any desire to benefit the county, and moreover, say that if such had been the purpose, how could it work any benefit? We are now speaking of how the re-districting was accomplished, not of how the work should have been done. We reiterate. Democrats and republicans alike have expressed regret to us that such a change should have been made and said that it was a measure "conceived in sin and born in iniquity."

It was folly to divide the county into such large districts. Marion County is not retro-grading, and will not retro-grade, even if a few wish to hint to the outside world that it is in such a condition. Even if there was an absolute surety that the reduced number of justices would be elected at the locations most convenient for all the people, still with such a large territory over which to hold jurisdiction, in many cases the ends of justice would be defeated and the criminal escape.

Technically speaking and judging from the arguments of our contemporaries, the County Court is not altogether guiltless, and yet it is not altogether in fault if this section of the Code of Tennessee is worthy of credence:

Art. 2, Sec. 83. The County Court of any county, two thirds of the acting justices of the peace being present, may change the boundary of any civil district, and make new districts or re-district a county entirely, when necessary, by means of commissioners to be appointed by such courts, or otherwise.—Milliken & Vertrees' Code.

And also again in Sec. 84, same chapter and Code we find the following:

"For every 2,500 qualified voters, and under 3,000, there shall be twenty districts."

And these laws to our knowledge have never been repealed, at least by the legislature that made the alleged re-districting law. Hence the legislature seems as much culpable as the County Court, perhaps the only party in fault. If we have two laws on our statute books, which one are we to obey? In case of two evils, the wise citizen will choose the least. We do not consider the action of the County Court should be condemned altogether in view of the evil which would result from submission to an arbitrary measure, which, if there be any truth in the law quoted above, is not legal.

Some may say that the action of the County Court is arbitrary. We grant that it is arbitrary, but the act cannot be said to be uncalled for. The best interests of the county demanded that there should be more than four districts, and the only way to get more was to refuse to obey an arbitrary law, which seems to have been devised by few to the prejudice of many, and for infringement there was no penalty. Chap. 414, Acts of 1899, does not repeal Art. 2 of Milliken & Vertrees' Code, 1884, or any other law as far as we can discover, and there you have the whole question in a nut shell. We suppose the matter will have to be referred to the Supreme Court for settlement, but who will assume the initiative in the prosecution of the County Court at his own expense we do not know.

In regard to the matter of J. C. Kelly the sentiment of a great many if not a majority of our citizens, is in favor of Mr. Kelly's position. He acted in good faith at a time when

it required prompt action if any result was attainable. There were no officers at hand and he did the next best thing under the circumstances. The capture of criminals is necessary just as much to deter others from like acts as for the punishment of the guilty parties. This absence of the proper officials was not through any dereliction of duty on their part, for they were absent on duty elsewhere. No one has yet discovered a plan by which the same body can be in two places at once.

Mr. Kelly applied for recompensation. He did not demand it; he merely applied for it, thinking it was due him. His loss had been considerable, and he did not believe the county would refuse his application and make him bear additional loss to save the county \$50.00 that no doubt would have been expended just the same if the proper officials had had the case in charge. The County Court was not so obtuse but that it could see the point, and it allowed him his expenses, and we do not believe any thinking citizen, who will get right down to the bottom of the facts, will question their judgment. It was a turning point whether the County Court should recognize the tax-payer and citizen or the criminal. Had it not endorsed Mr. Kelly's conduct every law-breaker in the County would have been emboldened to make further attacks upon the property of the citizens. It was a moral crisis, which appears to have been decided in a sagacious manner. If the county will not back up the citizen in an attempt to capture a criminal, what are we to expect? It would encourage every criminal to attempt like crimes under similar conditions, inspired by the belief that not every man would be so prompt in investigating the matter as J. C. Kelly, regardless whether the County met the cost, or not.

As we have intimated before, the expense would probably have been the same if the proper authorities had had the matter in charge. If so, what loss has the county sustained? Rather, a gain, as showing that private citizens are willing to assist in preserving law and order in every way possible. Mr. Kelly as a citizen and a taxpayer was entitled to protection, which at that moment was unavoidably lacking.

Our contemporaries at South Pittsburg have laid back their ears and are vociferously braying about "precedents." Did Jim Jones make a "precedent" when he captured the thief that stole his horse and was allowed \$243.80 for his expenses in apprehending the criminal? Why not howl about that instead of the paltry \$50.00 expended by Mr. Kelly? But the distinction seems to have depended upon the success of the effort, if there were no other reasons. Hence, if Mr. Kelly had been successful in capturing the thieves, our contemporaries would have lauded him to the skies, no recompense would have been sufficient, and a newspaper ovation would have been accorded to him second only to that given to Admiral Dewey by the great dailies of New York.

Now in reference to the allowance of \$34.00 to the bondsmen of Sam Smith. In the opinion of these men they believed and believe it still, that on the day when they presented Smith at court for trial, their responsibility ceased. They did not believe it was necessary to keep on presenting the prisoner to court day after day. They did not believe that the bond did not expire until sentence was delivered by the judge. Suppose the trial had been deferred for ten years, or even one year, unless the former bondsmen had volunteered, it is possible no new bond would have been left undemanding. There seems to have been a laxity in regard to the matter, perhaps on both sides that should not occur again. Another point is suggested,

Can a court be considered in session after it has adjourned to a day and hour? If not, that section of the bond which reads "and shall not depart [from court] without leave," has no power, and the alleged suggestion of Smith's attorney for him to "clear out" was based on good authority.

But after all, the reason why the bondsmen of Smith believed themselves entitled to the money was their honest belief that they had fulfilled their duty, and the culprit had escaped through no fault of theirs. They did not believe they were liable, they had surrendered him to the court, and that was all there was to it.

It is not possible to see how a "precedent" can be established in this matter if there is a complete understanding between bondsmen and judge in regard to the custody of a prisoner. Such an understanding may save trouble of a much more serious nature.

Messrs Raulston, Long and Tate feel that this public attack on the appropriation is a reflection upon their character and principles, and are deeply mortified to have it so cast up to the people, that they would be the willing recipients of money so dished from the county treasury. If they had believed that they were not honestly entitled to the money, we have no doubt that they would have made all haste to refund it and it could not have been done too quick to suit them.

We could say much more about this matter but space forbids other argument.

BREAK UP THE RING.

"Citizen and Taxpayer," in the South Pittsburg Statesman, says: "Some men can be hushed for a little 'hush money.' Some newspapers can be bought for a quarter of a dozen subscriptions to the paper, but anything with a ring about it cannot be bought that way," which of course does not include the News because we get more than a "quarter of a dozen" subscriptions every week.

Our average for the last six months has been one subscription a day and there has been no perceptible increase in the daily average since the County Court agitation was commenced. But allow us to make a suggestion. There seems to be too much "ring" at South Pittsburg for the good of the town and county, and we might add another idea. When the "ring" at South Pittsburg undertakes to rule this end of the county, it will find people here who will not submit. Break up the "ring." It has too much "ring" in it to suit the majority of the citizens.

The Anti-Trust Convention will be held at Chicago Feb 12, and people from all over the county will take part and we trust the meeting will be able to devise some means to stop the devastation which sooner or later will come under trust management. We are heartily in sympathy with the movement to fight a trust of any kind.

As the price of paper goes up the margins of our exchanges decrease.

NO RIGHT TO UGLINESS.

The woman who is lovely in face, form and temper will always have friends, but one who would be attractive must keep her health. If she is weak, sickly and all run down, she will be nervous and irritable. If she has constipation or kidney trouble, her impure blood will cause pimples, blotches, skin eruptions and a wretched complexion. Electric Bitters is the best medicine in the world to regulate stomach, liver and kidneys and to purify the blood. It gives strong nerves, bright eyes, smooth, velvety skin, rich complexion. It will make a good looking, charming woman of a run-down invalid. Only 50 cents at W. B. Keiser's, Whitehall and all other dealers.

CASTORIA.

The Kind You Have Always Bought

GREAT PROSPERITY.

Remarkably Satisfactory Figures Regarding the T. & C. I. Co.

Judging from the figures that have recently come to hand, Tennessee Coal & Iron quotations are likely to be much higher in the immediate future than they have been of late.

For some reason or other, which was never clear to those who are really well informed in regard to this company's property, the bears chose to begin a series of attacks upon its securities not very long ago, and prices were hammered down to figures far below previous levels. Weak holders were "shaken out" to a considerable extent, to use the Wall Street phrase; when in reality higher prices would have been more logical than lower.

The absurdity of bear raids upon this organization is brought into striking relief by some figures that have recently come to hand. It appears that the net profits of the company this year will not fall short of \$5,000,000, as compared with about \$1,800,000 last year. Actual contracts have been made for 600,000 tons of iron and steel, to be delivered during the current year, and in addition to these signed contracts there is enough business in sight to keep all of the plants of the company running full time at least ten months. This means that the surplus earnings will amount this year to about \$3,500,000, or about 19 per cent. on the common stock, after paying the overdue accumulated dividend on the preferred of 48 per cent., and providing for all taxes, rentals and fixed charges.

Tennessee Coal & Iron now owns more furnace stacks than any other iron property in the world. During the past year the company purchased all of the properties of the Sheffield Coal, Iron and Steel Company, located on the Tennessee River, at Sheffield, Ala. That company had been the chief business competitor of the Tennessee Coal and Iron and its absorption was regarded in Wall Street as a master stroke of sagacity on the part of President N. Baxter, Jr., and his associates. The plants and properties thus accumulated cost more than \$2,000,000 originally, but the company did not pay anything like that amount for them.

The steel plant of the company, which went into operation on Dec. 1st last, has met with phenomenal success. While the whole ten furnaces of the steel plant are not yet in operation, those that were put in blast have continued regularly, and the quality of the metal produced has been eminently satisfactory. The plant is one of the largest in the world, and being the most recently built, is undoubtedly the best. Such is the universal verdict of experts managers and superintendents of other famous works in this country and abroad, who have recently visited and inspected it. The company has a market for deliveries for the current year for more than half of its products, at prices entirely satisfactory to it. This, it will be understood, is a valuable addition to the company's property and from it the management confidently expect most satisfactory results. It is also understood that several new coal mines and coke ovens, plants, the development and construction of which were undertaken last year, are now about complete, and within a very few weeks the output of coal will be increased from 2,400 to 3,000 tons per day.—New York Commercial World.

Shellmonnd.

Special to the News.

The rain has passed and Monday morning was bright and fair.

Wheat crops are looking fine. Farmers are hustling things for another crop.

Mrs. T. L. Morrison is in very bad health.

W. B. McDaniel is suffering with rheumatism.

Sley and Nerva Bennett and Gordon Hammond left for Pryor Institute at Jasper last week.

Lee Clouse has a job at Cole City, Ga.

Richard Short is carrying the mail from Shellmonnd, Ala., visited his aunt, Mrs. J. R. Graham last week.

Fred and Oscar Beene are engaged getting logs.

We have some fine timber on our mountain sides. A saw mill man could do well here.

Prof. Moore closed his singing school here last Friday. The young folks are very anxious for him to come another ten days.

Mr. W. R. Dykes, and Miss L. R. Harp were married Sunday, W. Z. Barnett officiating.

Success to the News.

WANTED—SEVERAL PERSONS for district Office Managers in this state to represent me in their own and surrounding counties. Willing to pay yearly \$500, payable weekly. Desirable employment with unusual opportunities. References exchanged. Enclose self-addressed stamped envelope, S. A. Park, Caxton Building, Chicago.

First District.

Special to the News.

Your correspondent has been very poorly over since he returned from Arkansas with cold rheumatism and a cold.

If we don't get something done to the Johnson Gap road pretty soon we will have to travel the woods to Jasper and the mill.

You did not know that I made a portion by going to Arkansas neither did I. But of all the saws I ever saw I ever saw saw, I saw a saw saw in Arkansas saw that beat all saws saw over I saw saw out in Arkansas.

Well, did you know that I took cold? Neither did I. Cold took me.

Mr. Curtis' fife came up from running a rabbit last night and when he came in to the light what a fix do you guess he was in? Why, his tail was behind him.

I went up to Bro. Wm. Kilgore's last week to get some sarsaparilla, and I know what I did when I tasted it. I went back home of course.

My old lady went out to feed the chickens and the side of the chimney fell out on me as I am always in the corner and little George ran out and said to her grandma, "The chimney has fallen on grandpa and killed him," and grandma says: "I bet my life my pipe is broke." Well, enough of this.

Our Sunday school was not a failure as some supposed it would be, nor will it be shortly unless your correspondent and the children are not well or cannot get to the church house.

Yes, it rained all night Thursday and Friday.

We saw the leg of a sheep lying in the road half-way up the new road Saturday morning. Some dogs were after sheep near the Johnson road near the top of the mountain. Mrs. Eakin's little girl heard the sheep bell. Look out for dogs after this. Even buzzards may die after this.

Willie Curtis and Ab Cannon went out awhile the other night and caught a big opossum. I tell you they stepped high as it was about their first hunt.

It rains and it hails and is cold stormy weather.

In comes the spring to make it all better.

Stir the land and pop the whip. Don't stay too long on the setter.

Did you ever see a man that really wanted to die? What? I did. For he asked me for a corkscrew to draw his last breath.

We were over at Mr. Burroughs to comfort him awhile. But the lonely old fellow wore a smile. We sympathize with him at home or abroad.

We hope he will continue to trust in the Lord.

A few more years at most he'll enter Canaan's land.

There to meet Mrs. Peggy and take her by the hand.

There to shout with angels forever and ever more.

There his feelings and heart will not hurt I am sure.

So may he live and never, never tire. And with health and comfort be contented by the fire.

We had seven at Sunday school last Sunday. I reckon the rest don't want a Sunday school. We aim to give the people one more Sunday school and if they don't come we will close the school. Three or four of Francis McCullough's children, one of Mrs. Watley's, though her family is sick, attend. Loney Wells, Scott Hanesett and Atwood Nelson generally attend. Fathers and mothers do please come out next Lord's Day and bring the little ones. "Come out of the web," said the shark to the whale when he swallowed Jonah.

Sunday week is the first Sunday, and that is it. Hart's appointment at Burroughs' Chapel. Everybody is invited, as we have the good old-fashioned meeting that is the cause of such good. There isn't much silk worn there. God said: "hath not God chosen the year of the world." Remember Lazarus and the rich man. Yes, I am glad I am poor, rich in faith, and an heir of the Kingdom.

There will be separation on the mountain by next May. Everybody guess, and in the first issue of the News in that month I will tell you how I came to know so much about it.

Little George Welch says she wants to see little Annie Curtis, of Arkansas, and said she would like to see a few lines from her mother to the News.

Well, wishing the News one or two thousand new subscribers and a happy life our pencil falls asleep.

COLD WAVE.

You Need a Piano or an Organ.

If you do not your home does. Life without pleasure is a living death. Music will make your home bright, keep the young folks about the hearthstone and will give pleasure that will be the means of happiness. With the good prices prevailing for your crop, why not spend a hundred dollars and get a piano; you can pay balance next year. An organ will cost from twenty dollars up, and you need not pay but half now. Any instrument shipped on trial and satisfaction guaranteed.

The Oldest and Largest House South, PHILIP WERLEIN, Limited, New Orleans, La.

All other kinds of musical instruments, music, etc. Mandolins, violins, and guitars \$2.00 up. Catalogues free.

CASTORIA.

The Kind You Have Always Bought

J. L. Webb is the new postmaster at Rita.

Mt. Airy.

Special to the News.

I will give you a few jots from here. We are having some cold weather at this time.

Cross to getting is the pig business up here.

Mr. Bow Roberts and Thomas King are hauling ties from Cumberland Mountain.

People are gathering up their sheep on the mountain.

Will Alley of Dunlap, is shipping hogs and sheep.

Polk Robertson and Mr. Rogers are doing well. They sell goods cheap and everything the country wants.

Thomas D. Austin has moved into his new house.

Elie Austin was in the Valley Sunday.

Mr. Jersey and Tube and Jo Hughes and John K. and Wiley Graham, were the guests of Thomas Austin during the past few days.

Mrs. Susan Lamb is on the sick list.

Emmet Clark is having a serious time with the measles, but is gaining ground.

Hugh Angel returned to his home in Texas on the 15th inst. Alec Standifer went with him.

Wild turkeys and deer are having a rest while people are getting up their sheep and hogs.

Buck Lorton is on the sick list.

Mr. Gohlston of this place is selling a great deal of goods at this time.

Will Pope is having his woodland cleared.

Frank Johnson is as busy as a bee every day.

SANTA CLAUS.

Railroading Patents.

A single firm of Patent Lawyers, C. A. Snow & Co., of Washington, D. C., have in the last year procured 1,030 patents for their clients, many of them for rejected inventions. C. A. Snow & Co. have been accused of railroading patents through the Patent Office, but they insist that this locomotion is better than over-crafting them for by the latter process the inventor often dies before he gets his patent. J'y 11 189

WANTED.

Reliable man for Manager of Branch Office I wish to open in this vicinity. Good opening for an energetic, sober man. Kindly mention this paper when writing.

A. T. MORRIS, Cincinnati, O.

Illustrated catalogue 4 cts. postage.

THE WEEKLY TIMES

CHATTANOOGA, TENN.,

OFFERS

\$500 IN CASH

And Valuable Gifts,

To Subscribers.

The prizes are to be given for making the largest number of different correct English words out of the letters which form the names of

SCHLEY-WHEELER-LEE

Combine these names together. Use a letter in any one word formed only as often as it occurs in these names. To the one who makes the best list will be given \$50.00 cash; for the next best list a \$45.00 sewing machine; for the next best list a \$25.00 gold watch; for the next best list a \$15.00 fine man's saddle; for the next best list a \$10.00 good corn sheller. Then \$355 cash have been set aside to provide valuable Book Prizes for all who fail to secure either of the above prizes, but who make as many as only three words from the names. Say which book prize you want at the time you send in your list. (Cannot get it later.) Almost any one can make three simple words and claim a valuable book prize. No blanks! Prize for every contestant. Contest closes March 31, 1900. All prizes sent out at this time.

THE PRIZES FOR ONLY THREE WORDS.

H 17 1 Vol. Practical Poultry Keeper.
H 16 1 Vol. Horse and Cattle Doctor.
H 15 1 Vol. Home Business Education
H 9 1 Vol. Family Doctor Book.
H 60 1 Vol. Art of Letter Writing.
H 45 1 Vol. Everybody's Law Book.
H 5 1 Vol. American Cook Book.
H 59 1 Vol. Etiquette of Courtship.
H 67 1 Vol. How Women May Earn money.
H 51 1 Vol. Cart Load of Fun. (Humorous.)
H 7 1 Vol. Mrs. Partington's Grab Bag. (Humorous.)
H 23 1 Vol. Widdler Doodle's Love Affairs. (Humorous.)

A year's subscription to The Weekly Times (only 50 cents) must be sent with each list of words.

Send your words to this office, together with \$1.00, and we will send you our paper one year, and The Weekly Times, one year and allow you to enter the contest. Renewals same as new subscribers.

The Weekly Times wants an active agent or club raiser at every postoffice. Write for particulars.